

# INFORMATION REPORT

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Ivan N. Levin, former chief of the TASS Bureau in East Berlin, departed for the USSR on 23 August 1954, allegedly on leave, but as of early November 1954 there was no indication that he was going to return. In the meantime, Mikhail Pan'shin was acting as chief of the Bureau and from his attitude it seemed that he was going to remain in Berlin as chief of the TASS Bureau.

2. As of early November 1954, the Soviet staff of the GASS Bureau consisted of Pan'shin, Nikitchkin (fnu), Gerashchenko (fnu) and Barnachnikov (fnu). Nikitchkin was in charge of East German articles and news; Gerashchenko wrote articles and news about cultural and sports events; and Barnachnikov wrote articles about West Germany and West Berlin. Although Gerashchenko was intended to be a press photographer, he had not been very active in that capacity.

3. Berezinsky (fnu), the East Berlin correspondent of Kommunisticheskaya Pravda, who was sent to cover the Geneva conference, was still absent from Berlin as of early November 1954. Smirnov (fnu), the Radio Moscow correspondent in East Berlin, had returned to his post.

4. Saumov (fnu), of Pravda, and Prail'nikov (fnu), of Izvestia, both were in East Berlin as of early November 1954.

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